



01-10-02

JAN 18 2002  
NW  
Express Mail No.: EL 452 482 088 US

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Kessler *et al.*

Application No.: 09/530,747

Group Art Unit: 1655

Filed: October 23, 2000

Examiner: Taylor, J.

For: SPECIFIC AND SENSITIVE NUCLEIC  
ACID DETECTION METHOD

Attorney Docket No.: 48177OR

TECH CENTER 1600/2900  
JAN 15 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 15 2002

RECEIVED

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants have carefully considered the Office Action mailed July 23, 2001, in connection with the above-captioned Application. Reconsideration of the claims in light of the amendments and remarks that follow is respectfully requested. Filed herewith are Exhibit A ("Marked-Up Version of Amended Claims"), Exhibit B ("Pending Claims After Entry of Instant Amendment") and a Petition for Extension of Time extending the period for response by three months to and including January 23, 2001.

**AMENDMENT****IN THE CLAIMS**

Marked up copies of the following amended claims are attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Please amend Claims 1 and 5 to read as follows:

SubD1

1. (Three times amended) A method for the detection of a nucleic acid comprising the steps:

(a)- producing a plurality of amplificates of a section of the nucleic acid with the aid of two primers, one of which can bind to a first binding sequence (A) of one strand of the nucleic acid and the other can bind to a second binding

C1